

IN THE CLAIMS

14. (twice amended) A method for operating a camera having a barrel and a plurality of optical elements, the method comprising:

moving the barrel along an optical axis between and including a plurality of photographic positions and at least one position in which no photograph can be taken;

positioning all of the optical elements along the optical axis when the barrel is in all of the plurality of photographic positions; and

positioning at least one optical element of the plurality of optical elements out of the optical axis and at least another optical element of the plurality of optical elements along the optical axis, such that at least a portion of the at least one optical element and at least a portion of the at least another optical element are located along a common plane which is generally perpendicular to the optical axis, when the barrel is in the at least one position in which no photograph can be taken.

23. (twice amended) A method for operating a camera having a barrel and a plurality of imaging elements, the method comprising:

moving the barrel along an optical axis between and including a plurality of photographic positions and at least one position in which no photograph can be taken;

positioning all of the imaging elements along the optical axis when the barrel is in all of the plurality of photographic positions; and

positioning at least one imaging element of the plurality of imaging elements out of the optical axis and at least another imaging element of the plurality of imaging elements along the optical axis, such that at least a portion of the at least one imaging element and at least a portion of the at

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least another imaging element are located along a common plane which is generally perpendicular to the optical axis, when the barrel is in the at least one position in which no photograph can be taken.